

Giammo Wins Third Term; Voters Elect Dorsey, Hoffmann, Marcuccio, Robbins

Women are Majority for First Time Since Rockville Began Holding Elections in 1860

Mayor Larry Giammo and all three incumbent members of the City Council seeking re-election won new terms on Nov. 8 in the City of Rockville's 60th Mayor and Council election.

The results mean for the first time in four years, the City will have a new elected official. And for the first time ever, women will form a majority on the five-member Mayor and Council.

Giammo won his third term by defeating Brigitta Mullican, a retired federal employee and former member of the City's Planning Commission.

Giammo has led one of the most ambitious four-year periods for the Mayor and Council in City history. During the past four years, the Mayor and Council negotiated the details and approved the plans for the first phase of redevelopment of the City's new Town Center. On Nov. 1,



The 60th Mayor and Council of Rockville were inaugurated on Nov. 20 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Left to right: Mayor Larry Giammo and Councilmembers Bob Dorsey, Susan Hoffmann, Phyllis Marcuccio and Anne Robbins.

the Mayor and Council adopted the Washington region's strongest Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance.

Six candidates were competing for the four Council positions (all at-large), which, like the mayor's position, carry two-year terms. Win-

ning a seventh term was incumbent Bob Dorsey with 3,882 votes (17.5 percent). Anne M. Robbins won her fourth term (4,451 votes, 20 percent). Susan R. Hoffmann won her third term with 4,509 votes (20.3 percent). Winning her first term was Phyllis

Marcuccio of East Rockville (4,182 votes, 18.8 percent), who narrowly missed winning a Council seat two years ago in her first bid for Citywide office.

Hoffmann, the highest overall vote-getter, won six of the 10 polling districts. Robbins won three and Marcuccio won one.

Unsuccessful in their bids for City Council were Joy Young, executive director of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce, with 2,724 votes (12.3 percent) and Harry W. Thomas, Jr., the former president of the Twinbrook Citizens Association, with 2,421 votes (10.9 percent). There were a total of 77 write-in votes, 24 for mayor and 53 for City Council.

The newly elected members were sworn in on Sunday, Nov. 20, at the City's F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

Detailed election results are posted on the City's Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

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2005 VOTE TOTALS

(All 10 polling districts reporting and absentee ballots and same day voter registration)
Most votes tallied are in **Bold**

<u>For Mayor</u>	<u>Votes</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Larry Giammo	4,502	70.5
Brigitta Mullican	1,861	29.1
Write-in Votes	24	0.4

<u>For Council</u>	<u>Votes*</u>	<u>Pct.</u>
Susan R. Hoffmann	4,509	20.3
Anne M. Robbins	4,451	20.0
Phyllis Marcuccio	4,182	18.8
Bob Dorsey	3,882	17.5
Harry W. Thomas, Jr.	2,421	10.9
Joy Young	2,724	12.3
Write-in Votes	53	0.2

*4 seats to be filled.

Mayor and Council Adopts APFO

Rockville Will Have Detailed Approach to Regulating Development

The City of Rockville will have better control over future developments as the Mayor and Council approved provisions of an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that will be among the strongest in the Washington area.

On Nov. 1, the Mayor and Council approved the APFO, which they had worked for more than two years to craft. The ordinance went into effect immediately.

"We are taking a stand on issues that dramatically impact our quality of life," said Mayor

Larry Giammo.

Members of the Mayor and Council said they hoped other jurisdictions would follow

Rockville's lead in requiring public facility standards be met before approvals are given for future developments.

"We will create a precedent for others to emulate, to follow and to admire," said

Councilmember Susan Hoffmann.

The regulations will limit construction of new developments unless adequate public

facilities will be available to serve the new projects. The proposal, first addressed in 2003, was updated on Sept. 20, 2005. A public hearing was held on Oct. 10. On Oct. 24, the Mayor and Council gave instructions on the proposal to City staff for final revisions.

For details on the major standards addressed in the Rockville APFO, see page 5 of Rockville Reports.

For additional details, go to the City's Web site at www.rockvillemd.gov and view the provisions listed under the Department of Community Planning and Development Services. **RR**

"We are taking a stand on issues that dramatically impact our quality of life."

— Mayor Larry Giammo



TAKE PART, GIVE FROM THE HEART... Students at Rockville's Frost Middle School, including top finishers above, "Turkey Trotted" to raise food and money for Rockvilles' Holiday Drive in November. The "Caregivers Insert" in this month's edition of Rockville Reports gives ideas on how residents can further help those in need in Rockville.

December's Best of Rockville

Dec. 3

Senior Center Holiday Bazaar Shop for affordably priced handmade crafts, thrift and gift items, plants and baked goods. All proceeds benefit the Rockville Senior Center. Saturday, 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. 240-314-8800

Dec. 4, 11, 18

Glenview Mansion Holiday Open Houses Celebrate the holidays at Rockville's neoclassical mansion with free concerts, 30 rooms of holiday decorations (right) and special activities. 1-4 p.m. each day. FREE. 240-314-8660



Dec. 18

Rockville Chorus & Rockville Concert Band Holiday Shows Two of Rockville's premiere performance organizations play sounds of the season. Concert Band plays at 3 p.m. Rockville Chorus plays at 7:30 p.m. FREE. 240-314-8690

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City Projects UPDATE

Recreation & Parks

City Hall Improvements • Reorganization and renovation of second and third floor interior spaces of City Hall for improved use efficiencies • Construction is in the final phase and is expected to be completed in winter 2006.

Civic Center Long Range Plan • Feasibility study underway to identify adequate and accessible parking, vehicular and pedestrian access and stormwater management on the Civic Center grounds • Final design and construction cost estimates will be completed in May.

Dog Park • Design has been incorporated into Mattie J. T. Stepanek Park • Final design has been completed • Rockville Dog Owners Group (RDOG) continues to participate in the process.

Gude Drive Facility Improvements • Modernization and expansion of the City's Public Works and Parks maintenance complex in four phases • Phase I includes replacement of the salt dome, stormwater management upgrades, access improvements and improved debris storage • Construction bid expected to be awarded in December.

I-270/Route 28 Bike/Pedestrian Bridge • Separate bridge for pedestrians and bicyclists parallel to Route 28 on south side across I-270 to connect Hurley Avenue and Nelson Street bikeways • TEA-21 grant for \$3,124,421 received from State Highway Administration • Original bids received exceeded budget • New construction bids due in January.

King Farm Farmstead • Project returning to Historic District Commission for further review.

Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park • Construction documents being finalized • Construction bid award to be in winter 2006.

Millennium Trail • Veirs Mill Road to Edmonston Drive construction began in fall 2005 and is expected to be completed in the spring • Majority of cost of project covered by TEA-21 grant awarded by Maryland State Highway Administration.

Playground Equipment Improvements • Fallsgrove Park equipment to be installed in the spring • Installation pending land transfer from developer to City.

Rockville Municipal Swim Center Meeting/Fitness Room • Phase I design will begin in winter 2005-06.

Thomas Farm Community Center • Concept design was presented to the public in October • Work session with Mayor and Council tentatively scheduled for February.

Urban Forest Renewal • Removal of aging and hazardous trees in Twinbrook, Fallsmead, Potomac Woods and other neighborhoods is ongoing • Replacement plantings to take place in spring and fall 2006.

Public Works

TRANSPORTATION
Bike/Pedestrian Improvements • Flashing beacons at the intersection of Nelson and Azalea Streets were installed and are currently operational • Eight pedestrian signals with countdown LED lenses were installed at the intersection of Route 28 and Great Falls Road • Sidewalk installation on Mannakee Street from Beall Ave. to Carr Ave.: Construction started in early November • Sidewalk installation on Lynch Street from Beall Ave. to Anderson Ave. and Calvin Lane near Meadow Hall Elementary under design: Construction

scheduled for May • Sidewalk installation on Argyle Lane at Maryland Ave. to Monroe Street meeting with residents on Nov. 29. Construction scheduled for May.

Improve Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety at School • Short-term improvements were completed in October • 18 new or upgraded crosswalks, 24 "SCHOOL" pavement markings, 60 new signs and 34 new vertical school signs installed • Julius West Middle School, Ritchie Park, College Gardens and Meadow Hall Elementary Schools will participate in a 15-mph speed limit pilot project in January.

Fallsgrove-Funded Transportation Improvements • Majority of the projects are complete • Remaining projects include I-270, Maryland Route 28 and Nelson Street (underway); I-270 and Shady Grove Road; Gude Drive and Gaither Road (scheduled for mid-October).

Right Turn Lane West Bound at Research Boulevard • Construction of second right turn lane to Research Boulevard complete.

STREAM AND STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS
Alsace Lane Stream Restoration • Design underway on 500 feet of stream in the Rock Creek drainage area • Construction planned for summer.

Carnation/I-270 SWM Retrofit • Modify existing stormwater management facilities to implement stream erosion control in Watts Branch drainage area • Design complete • Construction planned for winter 2005-06.

College Gardens Low Impact Design (LID) SWM Study • Consultants evaluated various LID techniques on public and private property to improve Watts Branch water quality and reduce runoff • LID Assessment

Report will be presented to the Mayor and Council in December.

College Gardens Low Impact Design (LID) SWM Grant Implementation • College Gardens Civic Association and the College Gardens Garden Club have recruited volunteers to create 10 rain gardens and install 61 rain barrels on private property • A demonstration rain garden in College Gardens Park was created in fall 2005.

Drainage Improvement at Longwood/Pinewood Intersection • Design is underway to relieve occasional street flooding during large rainstorms • Construction is planned for summer.

Maryvale SWM and Park Improvements • Existing dual-use ballfield /SWM facility will be modified to create a separate soccer field and stormwater marsh • Design is ongoing. Construction is planned for winter 2006-07.

North Horners Lane Stream Improvement • 200 feet of stream restoration is under construction. • Completion expected in December.

Northeast Park Stormwater Management Retrofit • Modify existing SWM facility in Rock Creek drainage area • Construction is substantially completed.

RedGate Golf Course Stormwater Management Retrofits • Modify existing SWM facilities and improve 600 feet of stream in Rock Creek drainage area • Construction is ongoing with completion expected over the winter.

Rockcrest Stream Improvement • 1,600 feet of stream restoration in the Rock Creek watershed is being designed. Construction planned for summer.

Woottons Mill Stream Improvement • 4,400 feet of stream restoration in the Watts Branch watershed is under construction • Stream restoration is from Watts Branch Parkway to Wootton Parkway in Woottons Mill Park • Pedestrian access will continue • Construction will be completed in December.

UTILITIES

Adclare Water Main Replacement • Approximately 1,500 feet of six-inch water main under Adclare Road will be replaced with eight-inch water main • Design is ongoing. Construction is expected to begin in spring.

Evans Street Sewer • Sewer replacement for approximately 300 feet of six-inch PVC sewer at 110 and 112 Evans Street is under design • Construction is planned for spring.

Sewer Rehabilitation • Sewer evaluation survey, including flow monitoring and video inspection of underground piping for the southeastern area of Twinbrook, has been completed • Rehabilitation will begin in December.

WATER IMPROVEMENTS

Glen Mill Pump Station • Project will provide the additional pumping capacity needed to provide sufficient water supply to the entire Rockville water system • Construction started in September 2004 and will be completed this winter.

Water Treatment Plant • Major upgrade in the treatment plant to allow a maximum daily production of 14 million gallons is essentially complete • Construction of covers over the filter wells is complete • An emergency generator has been added • Improvements to sludge handling facilities are being studied.

Senior Center Bazaar is Saturday, Dec. 3

The Senior Center Bazaar is no big secret to the 600-700 people who usually attend each year, but anyone who is not familiar with the event is sure to find a holiday fest of food and handmade items.

This year's 22nd annual bazaar promises to have as many treasures as ever. The bazaar will be held on Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. with multiple vendors to visit throughout the day.

The event is one of the biggest fundraisers for Rockville Seniors, Inc., the center's independent fundraising organization.

"The money we raise goes directly back to the membership," said Ron Barber, president of RSI. "Each year we walk through the building and decide what needs to be replaced or added. For instance we put in a new light in the parking lot and we are planning to replace the chairs in the Carnation Room."

More than 80 volunteers will be on hand to assist with the bazaar, which will include homemade food, crafts, jewelry, plants, books, refurbished computers and the ever popular raffle. This year's raffle features a \$500 cash grand

prize and a \$250 second prize. Two lap quilts made by the center's "Piecemaker's Club" also will be included in the raffle.

"We look forward to the event all year," said Senior Center Supervisor Jill Hall. "It is our largest fundraising event and everyone has a great time — especially those who find hidden treasures."

Everyone is welcome to attend the bazaar.

"Most of the people who come are not just seniors," Hall said. "They are just people looking for good prices on well-made and unique items."

The Senior Center is located at 1150 Carnation Dr. For more information, contact the Center at 240-314-8800. **RR**



Hand-crafted items of all kinds will be available at the 22nd Annual Senior Center Bazaar.

“Howl” to Live With Wildlife

When new communities are constructed in areas that were primarily wooded, encounters with animals are bound to occur. Citizens in Rockville’s Fallsgrove community, which is among the newest communities in the City, reported seeing a number of coyotes in a forested area within their development over the past several months.

A story in the Nov. 18 edition of *The Baltimore Sun* detailed how coyotes have settled in areas throughout the Northeast U.S. In Rockville, coyote sightings have only been reported in the Fallsgrove area. Coyotes continue to thrive in the U.S. and it is likely that they are going to continue to be present in the Rockville environment.

The City believes wildlife and humans can coexist peacefully. There have been no reports of coyote attacks on humans in Maryland. However, small domestic animals such as cats and dogs may be at risk because a coyote’s diet mainly consists of small mammals including rabbits, rodents and birds. This diet also is preferred by foxes, another animal that has firmly established residence in Rockville and throughout Maryland.

While most coyotes and foxes usually avoid people, the City is prepared to take steps to exclude those animals that display aggressive behavior toward humans or appear to be potentially rabid. **RR**

Tips for Living Near Coyotes and Foxes

- Do not leave food of any kind outside. Bird feeders should be positioned so they are out of reach and debris cleaned up
- Eliminate sources of outside water during drought
- Feed pets inside
- Keep trash cans inside preferably, but if outside they should be securely sealed or kept in a fenced enclosure. On trash days, put trash out in the morning, instead of leaving it out all night
- Small children should not be left unsupervised outside, particularly in an area where coyotes have been sighted
- Do not allow pets outside off leash. Extendable leashes are discouraged
- If approached by a coyote, shout at it in a deep, loud voice. Appear to be aggressive. Use an air horn or whistle. Do not run. Maintain eye contact with the coyote. Move toward an area with human activity. Throw any available object at the coyote. Fill a soda can with coins and cover the opening with tape. Carry it with you as an effective noisemaker
- If a domestic animal is in the clutches of a coyote, do not attempt to dislodge the pet from the coyote as this can lead to serious personal injury

Citizens are urged to report coyote sightings to the City of Rockville Neighborhood Services (Animal Control) Office at 240-314-8930.

Volunteers Needed for Senior Services Long- Range Plan Committee

The City of Rockville’s Department of Recreation and Parks is seeking interested volunteers to serve on a task force to prepare a long range plan for senior services to be delivered to the Mayor and Council.

The task force will look at issues, trends and future demands, while establishing priorities to meet new, and possibly different, service requirements. The task force will meet twice per month for approximately four to six months.

“It is important that citizens help guide our senior services,” said Lorraine Schack, Senior Social Services coordinator. “Seniors’ needs continually grow and change, so we want to be sure we have a plan in place to meet those needs in the future.”

Those who would like to volunteer for the task force should call Schack at 240-314-8810 for an application or download one at www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter. **RR**

Let it Snow: Rockville Is Prepared

When the weather outside is frightful with heavy snow, residents should know there may be changes in street parking restrictions to help City crews clear roads faster.

Rockville’s innovative snow emergency plan, put into effect in 2003, has proved successful during the past two years in neighborhoods where residents have followed parking requirements to allow plows to more easily clear City streets.

During times of significant, deep snow, a snow emergency may be declared by the city manager. When that happens, residents are requested to park their cars in available garages or driveways on their properties. When that is not possible, residents are required to park only on sides of the street with even house numbers. Once that lane and the main part of the street is cleared, cars must be moved to the cleared curb (odd-numbered side).

Violators may be ticketed or towed. When both sides of the street are cleared, cars can be



Sledders of all ages enjoyed the wide open, snow covered fields by Glenview Mansion last winter.

parked in regular spaces.

Conditions leading to a “snow emergency” are significant, deep snow. If the city manager declares a “snow emergency,” the City will announce the status through local media, via the City’s Web (www.rockvillemd.gov) and on The Rockville Channel (Cable Channel 11). The “snow emergency” ordinance states:

- Residents with driveways

must park all vehicles there

- Residents without driveways, or who have more vehicles than will fit in the driveway, may park on the even-numbered side of the street only

- In courts or cul-de-sacs, where house numbers are not even on one side of the street and odd on the other, parking is allowed only on the left side of the street as one enters the cul-de-sac or court
- No parking is allowed in the “bulb” of the cul-de-sac or court
- After the snowfall ends and the odd-numbered side of the street is cleared, vehicles must be moved to the odd-numbered side to allow plows to clear the even-numbered side

The City may remove or impound cars improperly parked

A fine of \$100 for a “snow emergency” parking violation will be incurred

For more information, contact the Department of Public Works at 240-314-8500. **RR**

Plan de Emergencia Para Los de Nieve

El novedoso plan de emergencia para los días de nieve puesto en práctica por primera vez en Rockville el invierno pasado tuvo un éxito abrumador en muchos vecindarios de la Ciudad. Este invierno, la Ciudad espera que el plan tenga una repercusión aún mayor ahora que más residentes están familiarizados con los detalles.

La ordenanza de “emergencia de nieve” establece que:

- La Ciudad puede trasladar o incautar los automóviles estacionados indebidamente.
- Los residentes que tengan entrada de autos deben estacionar allí todos sus vehículos.
- Los residentes que no tengan entrada de autos o que tengan más vehículos

que lugar en su entrada de autos, pueden estacionar solamente en el lado de la calle con numeración par.

- En las plazoletas o calles sin salida, donde la numeración de las casas no es par en un lado de la calle e impar en el otro, solo se permite el estacionamiento en el lado izquierdo de la calle visto desde la entrada de la plazoleta o calle sin salida.
- Después que haya terminado la nevada y se haya despejado el lado de la calle con numeración impar, se deben mover los vehículos a ese lado de la calle para permitir que los carros que levantan la nieve puedan despejar el lado de numeración par.

Para más información, llame al Departamento de Obras Públicas: 240-314-8500.

Traspaleo de la nieve

Se debe despejar la nieve de todas las aceras, escalones, entradas de autos, lugares de estacionamiento y aceras pavimentadas de derecho de paso contiguos o lindantes con una propiedad. Esto incluye rampas de acceso y cortes de aceras diseñados para el uso por las personas con discapacidades.

El traspaleo de la nieve y la remoción del hielo debe realizarse en un plazo no mayor de 24 horas cuando la nevada es de menos de 3 pulgadas, y en un plazo no mayor de 48 horas si la nevada sobrepasa las 3 pulgadas. Se impondrán multas si no se respeta la ordenanza de la Ciudad.

Para más información llame al 240-314-8330. **RR**

— Translated by
Victoria Imas-Duchovny

December Leaf Collection Schedule

Winter may be here, but that does not mean the tree leaves have finished falling. The City will continue to collect leaves this month during

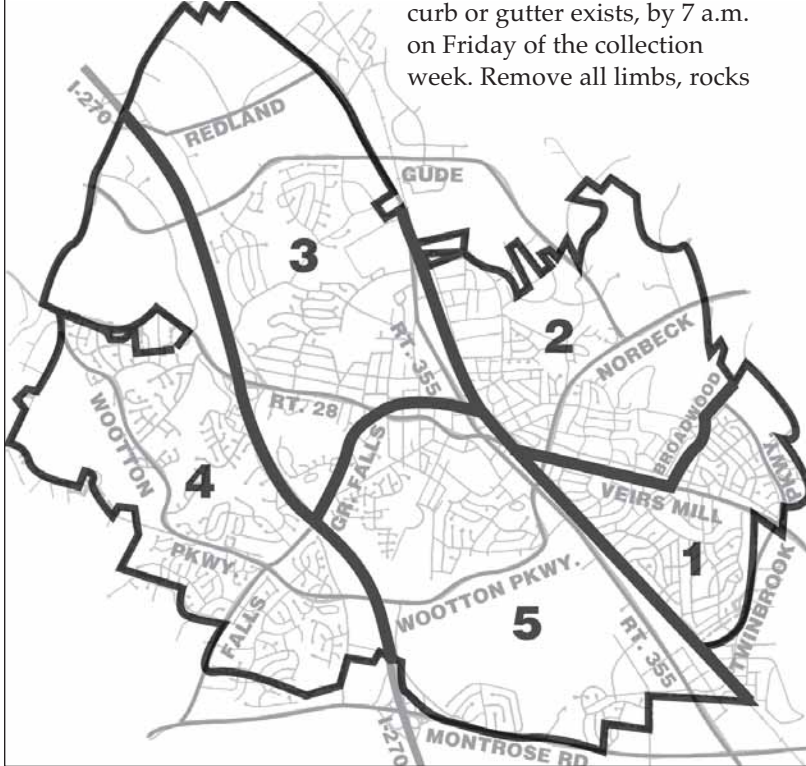
the final phase of Fall leaf collection.

Be sure to rake leaves into the gutter, or immediately adjacent to the pavement where no curb or gutter exists, by 7 a.m. on Friday of the collection week. Remove all limbs, rocks

and other heavy objects.

Do not place the leaves in plastic bags. The City recycling program will collect the leaves and grass in biodegradable bags or easily emptied containers.

For specific questions, call 240-314-8570.



AREA 1
Nov. 28 to Dec. 2

AREA 2
Dec. 5 to Dec. 9

AREA 3
Dec. 12 to Dec. 16

AREA 4
Dec. 19 to Dec. 23

AREA 5
Dec. 27 to Dec. 30

Trash Talking: Refuse Up for Discussion

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to discuss possible alternatives to the current methods of City of Rockville refuse collection at a worksession on Monday, Nov. 28, starting at 7 p.m. at City Hall. The discussion is a follow-up to a report presented in September 2004 by consultant R.W. Beck following its analysis of the City's collection methods. The report advised that the City should consider modifying some or all of its current basic collection services.

In the February 2005 follow-

up session, the Mayor and Council directed the City's Department of Public Works to develop an implementation plan for eliminating backdoor service and converting twice per week refuse collection to semi-automated, once-per-week collections in an attempt to make the system more efficient and limit future increases in operations costs.

The consultants said only five percent of governments that provide refuse collection in the U.S. have backyard service available.

Another consideration suggested by the consultants was to have an optional pricing method, which sets rates by the amount of trash left for collection.

"A system that charges by the amount of refuse collected could encourage people to recycle more," said Craig Simoneau, Rockville's director of Public Works. "The City must pay a tipping fee to Montgomery County to dispose of refuse, but no fee is charged for co-mingled and paper recyclables." **RR**



TOWN CENTER ARISING... Rockville Town Square, the first phase of the redevelopment of Rockville Town Center, is taking shape, as is evidenced by this November photo. The first buildings are scheduled to open in fall 2006. At a meeting in October, representatives of Federal Realty Investment Trust (FRIT), the owner of the Town Square retail space, outlined for the Mayor and Council a general layout of the businesses that may occupy Rockville's new downtown. Among the firm commitments detailed was the return of Starbucks Coffee to a location on East Middle Lane. FRIT also said it was talking with several occupants of the former shopping center on North Washington Street in the hope they would return to the revitalized Town Center. The Mayor and Council approved a change in the plan that will allow a 10,000 square-foot Gold's Gym to replace four multi-family residential units.



Ed Duffy has worked on Rockville Town Center for 40 years. Above left, he is at the construction site of the former Rockville Mall built in the 1970's. On the right, he stands next to construction of the new Rockville Town Square.

Then and Now: Ed Duffy's 40 Years of Rockville

Forty years ago, the world was about to gain a young, enthusiastic and extremely talented Social Studies teacher. Luckily, the City of Rockville got to him first.

And since 1965, Rockville has kept him. On Thursday, Nov. 17, Ed Duffy, the City's current longest-tenured employee, was one of 74 employees honored at Rockville's 2005 Employee Service Awards.

"In today's economy and job market, people change jobs so frequently that it is quite a milestone to stay employed at one organization for 40 years," said Rich Hajewski, Rockville's director of personnel. "His commitment to the City shows how valuable and motivated he is as an individual."

Duffy, who has held many jobs in the City, is now the Community Development Program Manager for the Department of Community Planning and Development Services. He said a career in government was never in his plans. However, while completing his undergraduate degree for teaching, he accepted a two-year position in what was then the City's Department of Urban Renewal.

"Two years was the amount of time needed to complete my undergraduate degree for teaching," said Duffy. "But I liked my job, and the rest is history."

Since he first began working for the City, Duffy has experienced generations of change, especially within the stages that will lead to becoming Rockville's future Town Center.

In 1965, Duffy supervised Urban Renewal projects in downtown Rockville, where the

old Town Center was located. His job was to prepare the area for redevelopment.

In the early 1970's, Duffy oversaw construction of the Rockville Mall, and later became director of its parking garage. That mall, a commercial failure, was demolished in 1995.

In 2001, he coordinated the Town Center Redevelopment Program, which worked to relocate tenants to clear the way for the first phase of the new Town Center that will revitalize Rockville's downtown.

"I've devoted 40 years of my life to Town Center," said Duffy. "This time, it has to succeed."

Duffy also has a memory as solid as any history book. When people want to know details about something

that happened in the City 30 years ago, a call to him is sure to produce a valuable history lesson.

"Ed Duffy's depth of knowledge about the City is invaluable," said Art Chambers, director of Community Planning and Development Services. "He knows everything that has happened within the City and within the organization."

Why has Duffy stayed committed to Rockville for so long?

"I like Rockville," he said. "I've had several opportunities to do something outside of the City, and coincidentally, every time one of those jobs came up, I got a promotion."

After 40 years on the job, Duffy does not regret a single minute.

"Instead of teaching history," he said, "I've helped make it." **RR**

— by Rebecca Janoff

*"Instead of
teaching history,
I've helped
make it."*

— Ed Duffy,
Community Development
Program Manager

INSIDE MAYOR & COUNCIL

A Glimpse into the
City Government at Work



THANK YOU JOHN HALL, JR.... The Rockville Mayor and Council, Maryland state leaders and others gathered to honor City of Rockville two-term Councilmember John Hall, Jr. for his dedication and service to the City on Tuesday, Nov. 1 at City Hall. Hall did not run for re-election on Nov. 8. The Nov. 1 meeting was the final one scheduled for his term.

Rockville APFO: Requiring Standards Be Met

Rockville now has one of the strongest approaches in the Washington metropolitan area to regulate future growth as a result of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance that was adopted by the Mayor and Council on Nov. 1. The regulations will limit construction of new developments unless adequate public facilities will be available to serve the new projects.

The major standards addressed by Rockville's APFO center on school capacity, traffic, fire and rescue services and essential core facilities (such as water and sewer). If any of the standards are not met, permission could be denied to build new residential or commercial developments.

Key provisions addressed in Rockville's APFO are as follows:

School Capacity

- Requires that Montgomery County Public Schools located in Rockville—including all elementary, middle and high schools—not have enrollments exceeding 110 percent of program capacity within two years
- The school capacity standards addressed in the Rockville APFO differ significantly from Montgomery County's Annual Growth Policy (AGP), provisions the county uses to regulate growth. All public schools in Rockville have adequate capacity under the guidelines of the Montgomery County AGP. However, many of those schools do not have available capacity under the more strict provisions of Rockville's APFO. For example, the Rockville standard shows that Beall Elementary School today is at 119 percent of capacity, whereas, the Montgomery County AGP figures show Beall is at 72 percent of capacity.
- The Rockville APFO will measure school capacity by "program capacity." The AGP uses

the standard of "building capacity." [For example, if a classroom is rated to hold 20 students, but is being utilized by a special program that can only hold up to 10 students, the Montgomery AGP counts the total of 20 students toward capacity. The Rockville APFO will measure capacity by the capacity of the program occupying the room.]

- Rockville's APFO requires school capacity standards to be met within two years. Montgomery allows five years to meet county AGP school capacity standards.

Fire and Rescue

- Response times would have to be within eight minutes for residential responses

Traffic and Transportation

- Developments would have to comply with the City's Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR) process

Water and Sewer Service

- Generally, the city has adequate water and sewer service, but capacity for individual sites would be evaluated

Previously Approved, but Uncompleted, Projects

- Previously approved projects with no defined validity period will have 25 years to complete the project
- If a project's required infrastructure has been completed, the Mayor and Council may grant one additional five-year extension. If the project is not completed within the validity period, the project would require a new APFO review for the remaining development

Waivers

- Could be granted under limited circumstances, by a super-majority vote of the body that approves the development

For more details on the Rockville APFO, visit www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

Mayor and Council Kick-off Holiday Drive Nov. 1

The Rockville Mayor and Council kicked off the City's 2005 Rockville Holiday Drive at their Nov. 1 meeting. The Holiday Drive is the City's annual effort to provide Thanksgiving food baskets and new toys and other gifts to needy residents.

Distribution of Thanksgiving food baskets with many of the canned goods collected by the students took place Nov. 19-22. The City is still working to find sponsors for families and to collect toys and gift cards to ensure all children in the City have a happy holiday in December.

"Monetary gifts and donations of new toys are the greatest needs we have in December," said Mary Lou Jacobs, director of Rockville's Department of Community Services. "We especially appreciate receiving \$15 gift cards that enable teenagers to shop at their favorite stores."

The toy donations are orga-

nized and displayed in a "Secret Toy Shop" where referred parents can select one or more toys for each child, depending on the number of toys donated.

The Family Sponsorship Program provides another way to contribute. Sponsors are matched with a local family that has completed a "wish list" designed to help the sponsor know what family members truly need.

Cash contributions also are needed to supplement community donations of food and toys. Checks should be made payable to the Rockville Holiday Drive Fund and mailed to the Department of Community Services, Attn: Rockville Holiday Drive, 20 Courthouse Square, Suite No. 205, Rockville Md. 20850.

For information on drop-off locations for Holiday Drive donations, call 240-314-8307. Those interested in sponsoring a family should call Mandy Smith at 240-314-8318. **RR**

City Will Not Temporarily Regulate Home Sizes

Rockville's Mayor and Council, seeking a long-term solution to adverse effects of large new homes built on lots in established neighborhoods, have decided to concentrate on developing permanent changes to the City Zoning Ordinance that will address the issue. Until the changes are complete homeowners are allowed to complete construct additions and make other improvements.

On Nov. 21, the Mayor and Council discussed possibly developing regulations by neighborhoods. That will be among the options to be considered as the City develops permanent changes to the Zoning Ordinance.

The Mayor and Council had considered imposing a six-month temporary restriction on new residential building permits that exceeded certain limits, but at their meeting on Sept. 26, it was decided that the time and resources that would go toward crafting a temporary restriction would slow the effort to put in place permanent changes to the Zoning Ordinance. It is expected that an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance may be acted on in approximately six months.

The trend toward replacing existing homes, or adding on to them, to create houses that are oversized and architecturally incompatible with surrounding neighborhoods has been an increasing concern for jurisdictions throughout the Washington area.

Throughout an extended dis-



A new home towers over another in Twinbrook.

cussion at the Sept. 26 meeting, it was noted that many examples of redevelopment of existing homes conform with the character of surrounding neighborhoods, but there are notable examples that do not.

The City wants to address the redevelopment of homes that would negatively impact neighbors now before the trend gains significant momentum.

"Let's go through this process that might take five or six months, but let's not lose our sense of urgency," said Mayor Giammo.

Among the specifics the City will examine as it drafts an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance will be provisions that could limit construction if the square footage of the house footprint, plus the square footage footprints of "impervious surfaces" (other hard-surface items on the property), exceed a certain total percentage of the lot. Items that may be considered as impervious surfaces could include garages, driveways, decks and patios. **RR**



Mayor
Larry Giammo



Councilmember
Bob Dorsey



Councilmember
Susan R. Hoffmann



Councilmember
Phyllis Marcuccio



Councilmember
Anne M. Robbins

Mayor & Council Drop In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council office at City Hall from 5:30-6:30 p.m. generally one Monday per month. Call the City Clerk's Office (240-314-8280) as drop-in times are subject to change.

In addition to Mayor Larry Giammo, the Councilmember scheduled for December is:

- **Monday, Dec. 19:** Bob Dorsey

Mayor & Council Meetings

All General Sessions, Worksessions and Public Hearings are televised on The Rockville Channel (TRC 11), and are available on streaming video at: www.rockvillemd.gov.

Citizens may comment on any subject for up to three minutes during the "Citizen's Forum" portion at most general session meetings. All meetings are subject to change.

- **Dec. 12 (Mon.)** Citizen's Forum. Meeting starts at 7 p.m.
- **Dec. 19 (Mon.)** Citizen's Forum. Public Hearings start at 7 p.m.

Boards & Commissions Vacancies

The City is seeking applicants for appointment to the following:

- Environmental Commission (one)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (one at-large)
- Human Rights Commission (two)
- Rockville Scholarship Fund (one)
- Rockville Sister City Corp. (one)
- Traffic and Transportation (one)

For more information, contact the Office of the City Clerk at 240-314-8280.



Rockville Art and Music Festival volunteers organize Mardi Gras beads, which were exchanged for donations to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Rockville Helps Hurricane Victims

City of Rockville Police Corporal Health Marshall was called away from his post in November to help the City of New Orleans recuperate from Hurricane Katrina.

Marshall spent several days in the 9th Ward searching for flood victims as a volunteer for Mid-Atlantic D.O.G.S. The all volunteer group provides highly trained K-9 teams to respond to search emergencies, anywhere a person is lost, missing, trapped, a victim of a violent crime, or has drowned.

Marshall and his K-9, Kane, have volunteered for the group since May 2004.

Marshall's service is just one of the many ways people in Rockville have united to help hurricane victims during one of the most devastating years for natural disasters in the United States.

Patrons of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre raised more than \$2,700 during a jazz benefit concert for Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit organization building homes for people affected by the hurricanes.

Members of the Rockville Art League raised \$1,500 for the American Red Cross through a special art sale at the Antique and Classic Car Show in October.

At the Rockville Art and Music Festival in September and the car show in October, the City raised funds for hurricane victims through its "One Bead At a Time" campaign.

The campaign exchanged Mardi Gras beads for donations for Katrina victims. "One Bead At a Time" donations and those collected at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery collection box from September through November raised nearly \$1,000 for the American Red Cross.

Many individuals and companies in the City also worked to assist those affected by the disasters. Wolpoff & Abramson, a 550-person company located in King Farm that specializes in debt collection, matched its employees' donations for a "wear jeans to work day" to raise a total of \$26,855 for the American Red Cross.

Donations are still needed by a variety of organizations working to assist victims. Visit www.redcross.org, www.habitatforhumanity.org, or www.midatlanticdogs.org for more information about the organizations mentioned in this article. **RR**



SHARING INSPIRATION...Acclaimed author and recipient of the 10th Annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Award Pat Conroy (left) is introduced by Joseph Monte, the Gonzaga High School English teacher who inspired him to become a writer, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference on Oct. 22. Conroy was honored along with Short Story Contest award winners Elana Rodman, a student at Walt Whitman High School, for her story "Sapphire Skies Over Milan" and Cynthia Adams of Westminster, Md., for her "Jumping Shadows." (Photo by Rebecca Janoff)

Leap Into Fitness with 'Step Up To Health'

Shorter days and cooler temperatures can lead some people to exercise less in the winter. But staying fit is important all year round.

To underscore this message, the City of Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks is launching the City's participation in a major new national initiative called "Step Up to Health" (SUTH).

"This initiative strives to involve more people in physical activity, exercise and fitness," said Phil Bryan, superintendent of Recreation.

The Step Up to Health initiative includes a variety of programs and seminars throughout the year. One new program being launched this



winter, Walk Rockville, provides resources and incentives to encourage citizens to walk more in the City.

Rockville's SUTH initiative also is specifically encouraging children to walk and bicycle more through partnerships with three Rockville elementary schools.

Designated SUTH fitness and wellness programs for all ages are marked in the Recreation and Parks

Winter Guide mailed to all residents the first week of December.

By registering for SUTH classes, participants can earn double points in the City's new Rockin' Rewards program, which accumulates points that can later be exchanged for free programs or memberships.

New SUTH classes include *Stroller Stride...Inside!*, where moms and babies work out together; *Tiny Tappers*, a toddler tap dancing session; *Snowplow Sam*, a beginner ice-skating class; and *Acrobatics for Beginners*, an introduction to acrobatics with partners. **RR**

—by Rebecca Janoff

Recreate and Get Rockin' Rewards

Nearly every day citizens can be found having a rockin' good time in recreation programs throughout the City of Rockville. And now they will be rewarded for it.

The City's Department of Recreation and Parks is launching Rockin' Rewards.

Starting in December, those who are enrolled in the RockEnroll database will automatically begin earning one point for every dollar that is spent on course registration or membership pass sales. Mem-



bers of households can use accrued points to earn free programs or memberships to many City classes, programs, seminars and facilities.

"We are extremely excited to be able to offer free programs and memberships as a thank you to our regular Rockville recreation participants," said Phil Bryan, superintendent of Recreation. "We

also hope to attract new comers to our numerous offerings. From aqua aerobics and ballroom dancing to language and yoga classes, we annually conduct a variety of activities for people of all ages and interests."

For more details on how the Rockin' Rewards program works, read the City's Winter Recreation Guide distributed to residents the first week in December or visit www.rockvillemd.gov and click on RockEnroll. **RR**



Glenview Mansion is especially beautiful on the outside and inside when decorated for the holidays.

The Halls Are Decked at Glenview Mansion

The 30 rooms and halls at Glenview Mansion are decked out for a special "Dressed for the Holidays in Buttons and Bows" celebration this month, continuing the popular decades-long tradition that attracts nearly 3,000 people annually.

Sixteen Rockville community groups, from Girl Scouts to artists, have decorated trees and created unique holiday displays throughout the pillared, neo-classical, 19th century home, nestled in the 153-acre Rockville Civic Center Park.

To view last year's display, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview/treedisplayindex.html

The mansion is open for viewing each week, generally Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. However, call ahead to ensure there are no private events. The public also is invited to four free open houses featuring spirited live music and tours

every Sunday in December. Each event is from 1- 4 p.m. and planned entertainment is as follows:

Sunday, Dec. 4

1:15 p.m. Encore Singers
2:15 p.m. Rockville Singers
3:15 p.m. Heavenly Handbells from Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, Dec. 11

1:15 p.m. Richard Montgomery High School Madrigals
2:15 p.m. Watkins Mill High School Chamber Singers
3:15 p.m. Heart of Maryland Chorus

Sunday, Dec. 18

1-4 p.m. Children's Open House featuring pictures with Santa, Mrs. Claus, Frosty and Rudolph

For information about holiday events at Glenview Mansion, call 240-314-8660 or visit www.rockvillemd.gov. **RR**

In Brief

Rockville Inclement Weather Updates

The City of Rockville announces inclement weather status through several outlets.

To find out whether a City meeting or recreation program has been cancelled due to the winter weather, always check the City's Web site (www.rockvillemd.gov), The Rockville Channel (Cable Channel 11) and the following radio and television stations:

Radio: WTOP (1500 AM, 820 AM, 107.7 FM and 103.5 FM); WARW (94.7 FM); WRQX (107.3 FM); WFRE (99.9 FM and 930 AM); WMAL (630 AM). **TV:** WRC-TV (NBC Channel 4); WTTG-Fox TV (Channel 5); WJLA-TV (ABC Channel 7 and NewsChannel 8); and WUSA-TV (CBS Channel 9).

The Rockville Recreation Inclement Weather hotline number is 240-314-5020.

CALL **240-314-8116** FOR INFO

Time Well Spent: Be a Mentor

Adult mentors are needed to be role models and friends to deserving youth on Tuesday afternoons from 3:30-4:30 p.m. at the College Gardens Elementary School throughout the school year.

For more information contact Mandy Smith, at the Department of Community Services at msmith@rockvillemd.gov.

CALL **240-314-8318** FOR INFO

Snow Shoveling

Snow must be removed from all sidewalks, steps, driveways, parking spaces and the paved right-of-way sidewalks immediately fronting or abutting a property. This includes access ramps and curb cuts designed for use by people with disabilities.

Snow and ice removal must occur within 24 hours if the snowfall is less than three inches and within 48 hours if it surpasses three inches. Fines may be imposed if the City ordinance is not followed.

CALL **240-314-8330** FOR INFO

Snow Shovelers for Seniors Wanted

Many older citizens cannot physically shovel snow.

Rockville's Senior Center is compiling names of volunteers who are willing to help seniors by shoveling their sidewalks and driveways after winter snowfalls. The Senior Center is also compiling a list of seniors who regularly need help.

Those wishing to volunteer, and those seniors who may need assistance, should call in advance of upcoming winter storms.

CALL **240-314-8810** FOR INFO

RedGate Golf Course Winter Rates

Some play it addictively, others only leisurely, but every type of player will enjoy their round at Rockville's RedGate Golf course at bargain winter rates. The fol-

lowing winter rates will be in effect from Nov. 15-March 16.

Seven days a week, green fees for 18 holes are \$27 for non-residents, and \$24 for residents and seniors. The fee for 9 holes is \$16 for non-residents, \$13 for residents, and \$12 for seniors. Replay rates are \$14.50 and twilight rates are \$20.

To rent a cart, there is a \$7 fee per rider for 9 holes, \$10 fee per rider for 18 holes, and \$5 fee per rider for a replay round.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/redgate.

CALL **240-314-8730** FOR INFO

Large Metal Refuse? Schedule a Pick-up

To dispose of major metal items such as washers, dryers, stoves, refrigerators, metal sheds or metal swing sets, citizens must call the City in advance to schedule a special collection.

Pickups of major items take place on Wednesdays and the reservation must be made by 3 p.m. on Tuesday prior to the day of collection. Calls are accepted at 240-314-8568 between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday-Friday. Calls received on Wednesdays will be scheduled for the next Wednesday.

Please do not place items at the curb unless you are instructed to do so.

CALL **240-314-8568** FOR INFO

Seasons Greetings



SERVING IN THE SPIRIT OF MLK... Pictured above are the winners of the 2005 Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Award (Daniel C. Chow, left, and Tanya Lofton, center) and F. Michael Taff Award (David L'Heureux, right). The City's Human Rights Commission is seeking nominations for its 2006 awards program. Winners will be announced at the 34th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration that will be held on Jan. 16. The nomination deadline for both awards is Wednesday, Dec. 7.

Applications for nominations may be obtained at www.rockvillemd.gov or by calling the Human Rights Office at 240-314-8316.

Holidays That Affect Services

The City of Rockville strives to provide the highest quality services to residents throughout the year. However, there are six holidays (listed below) that the City does not provide certain services. The Dec. 05-Nov. 06 holidays are:

- Monday after Christmas Day
- Monday after New Year's Day
- Memorial Day

- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day

If your collection falls on one of these holidays, you must hold your trash and/or recycling until the next collection day. For people who will miss recycling collections on Mondays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, there will be a special recycling pick up on Wednesday, Dec. 28. If on regularly scheduled pick-up days your items are not collected, call 240-314-8568.

CALL **240-314-8568** FOR INFO

CELEBRATE THE SEASON IN ROCKVILLE

Looking for a place to deck the halls with friends and family? A variety of free or low-cost seasonal activities will take place in the City this month. Each holiday event is noted with a leaf on the December calendar below.

= Holiday Event

CITY

3 Rockville Senior Center Holiday Bazaar Shop for affordably priced handmade crafts, thrift and gift items, plants and baked goods. All proceeds benefit the Rockville Senior Center. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 240-314-8800

2,9,16,23,30

MOBY Medical Clinic Primary medical care for low-income, uninsured, working-poor and homeless people in Montgomery County. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Lincoln Park Community Recreation Center. 301-493-2400

6-31 Beall-Dawson House Holiday Tours A special exhibit of historic holiday cards from the Montgomery County Historical Society collection will highlight the tours. Tours run Tuesday through Sundays, Dec. 6-31, 12 noon-4 p.m. \$3 adults/\$2 seniors and students. Free for MCHS members. The Beall-Dawson House is located at 103 W. Montgomery Avenue. 301-762-1492

17 Off-Leash Dog Testing Tests to see if City dogs can be

december calendar of events

RES. = Residents • NR. = Non Residents • MEM. = Member • NM. = Non Member

walked without a leash. Call to register as date is subject to change. 10 a.m. Swim Center Outdoor Entrance Parking Lot. 240-314-8930

ARTS

The Glenview Mansion Art Gallery and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre are located in Rockville's Civic Center Park. Arts Hotline: 240-314-5006. Tickets may be purchased online at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Service charges apply.

3,4,10,11

Rockville Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" Saturdays, Dec. 3 and 10, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 4 and 11, 2 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. \$12 adults, \$8 children (ages 12 and under) and senior citizens (ages 60 and older.) Group rates available. For tickets, call the box office at 240-314-8690.

4-31 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: Rockville Art League Juried Members Show Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. FREE. 240-314-8682

4,11,18 Glenview Mansion Holiday Open Houses Celebrate the holidays at Rockville's neoclassical mansion with free concerts, 30 rooms of holiday decorations and special activities. 1-4 p.m. FREE. 240-314-8660

18 Rockville Concert Band: Holiday Concert Rockville's premier

75-member band performs sounds of the season. 3 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. FREE. 240-314-8681

18 Rockville Chorus: Holiday Concert 7:30 p.m. F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. 240-314-8690

NATURE

All programs are at the Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, Rockville Civic Center Park, unless noted. Registration is required. Register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.

14 Polar Bears What is black and white and snowed all over? Polar bears! Through a video, craft and activities learn about these Arctic bears. 1-2 p.m. Ages 3-6. \$4 RES/\$5 NR.

27 Reindeer Games Bigger and better! New this year—ride an antique iron train, take a hayride and, of course, meet the wonderful reindeer. Travel by 15-passenger van to meet Minnie, Molly and Spruce, just a few of the herd's reindeer living near White Church, Md. Cost includes transportation, leadership and fees. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Ages 7-13. \$35 RES/\$40 NR.

29 Snowman Snow Gauge Prepare for winter weather by making a snow gauge, complete with a snowman on top. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Ages 5-over. \$10 RES/\$12 NR.

SENIORS

All programs are at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, unless noted. Phone: 240-314-8800

1 In the Kitchen with Judy – Celebration Canapés 10 a.m.-12 noon. \$28 MEM/\$35 NM.

7 December Birthday and Anniversary Party 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Register by Nov. 30.

8 Tax Changes 2005-2006 10 a.m.-12 noon. FREE.

8 Digital Photography Night Trip 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$15 MEM/\$19NM

13 Digital Camera Purchase 10 a.m.-12 noon. FREE.

15 Is it a Senior Moment or Dementia? 1-2 p.m. FREE.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

All meetings are at City Hall unless otherwise noted.

1 Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 p.m., Glenview Mansion (invitation only)

3 Board of Appeals, 9:30 a.m.

7 Human Rights Commission, 7:30 p.m.

7 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

13 Human Services Advisory Commission, 7:30 p.m., Senior Center

13 Commission on the Environment, 7:30 p.m.

13 Landlord/Tenant Commission, 5:30 p.m.

14 Cultural Arts Commission, 7 p.m.

14 Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

14 Sign Review Board, 4 p.m. (held as needed)

15 Historic District Commission, 7 p.m.

15 Rockville Sister City Corporation, 7:30 p.m., Senior Center

15 Senior Citizens Commission, 10 a.m., Senior Center

18 Rockville Economic Development, Inc., 7:30 a.m., Glenview Mansion (invitation only)

20 Rockville Seniors, Inc., 1 p.m., Senior Center

20 Town Center Action Team, 7 p.m., Room 105, Red Brick Courthouse

21 Rockville Housing Enterprises, 6:30 p.m., Lincoln Park Community Center

27 Traffic and Transportation Commission, 7:30 p.m.

Rockville Up Close: Board of Supervisors of Elections

Residents help shape Rockville through involvement with neighborhood and civic associations and participation on Mayor and Council-appointed Boards and Commissions. On a regular basis, Rockville Up Close will take an in-depth look at these organizations.

When there is an election in Rockville, most voters show up to their polling locations and within minutes are finished casting their ballot. Then they await the results. But behind that smooth voting process are thousands of hours and hundreds of people hard at work to ensure the democratic process unfolds as planned and a new Rockville Mayor and Council is elected.

At the forefront of this



Board of Supervisors of Elections Chair Doris Ecelbarger signs the official results of the City's 60th Mayor and Council election.

process is the Board of Supervisors of Elections. This five

the Council. Members' terms run for four years or until their successors are appointed and qualified.

Doris Ecelbarger is the Chair of the Supervisors of Elections. She and board members Linda Aksamit, David Celeste, Sidney Gottlieb and Margaretta Tutson work tirelessly with the Office of the City Clerk and 75 trained judges to administer the election every two years.

In Ecelbarger's 10 years of experience on the board, she said the 60th Rockville Mayor and Council Election went like clockwork on Nov. 8.

"It's a fascinating process," she said. "I've been involved in politics since 1968 and each time it is wonderful to see democracy in action." **RR**

Volunteer Time: Bridges to Pals

There are many ways to share talent, experience, expertise and time with individuals or organizations by volunteering in the City. Each month "Volunteer Time" highlights a different opportunity to promote an interest in giving back to the community.

Rockville resident Norm Hampton's involvement in "Bridges to Pals," a long-term mentoring program of the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, is one of the most rewarding volunteer experiences of his life.

Hampton spends a significant amount of his time being a role model and friend to a 12-year-old boy in Gaithersburg. While they experience the joy of baseball games and theme parks, Hampton also works to teach his "pal" life lessons such as earning good grades.

"Bridges to Pals is a great program," said Hampton. "After a trip to the National Air and Space Museum, it was great to see my pal develop an interest in aviation."

There are a number of pals ages 5 to 17 like Hampton's waiting to be paired particularly with caring male mentors. Volunteers make a one year commitment to meeting with a child at least four hours per month and taking them on social, recreational, and educational outings. It is also expected that they make weekly telephone contact with their mentees.

Volunteers are screened and undergo a training program. A professional staff provides ongoing support and group meetings are held quarterly so that mentors may exchange ideas, relate concerns and have additional training opportunities. Each match is made based on volunteer and family preferences as to age, location and compatibility in temperament and interests.

For more information, or to volunteer for the program, contact Alisa Heath, director of Bridges to Pals, at 301-424-0656 ext. 123. **RR**

"Project Lifesaver" Enrolls First Participant

When Ellen Gayden's husband Jim wandered from their Twinbrook home of 45 years, Ellen quickly got in her car to look for him. She was so upset while driving and looking for Jim, an Alzheimer's sufferer since 2000, Ellen accidentally ran into a parked car. Montgomery County and Rockville City Police responded quickly and helped Jim and Ellen return safely to their home.

Now the Gaydens have a new tool to help Ellen and the Rockville City Police quickly and safely locate Jim if he wanders again.

The Gaydens are the first to enroll in, "Project Lifesaver," a new life-saving Rockville program targeted toward tracking Alzheimer's patients.

In November, Jim received a personalized wristband that emits a constant tracking signal.

When caregivers, like Ellen, notify Rockville Police that a person wearing the wristband is missing, officers will respond using a mobile tracking device to pinpoint the person's location using a radio frequency. When the person is found, the specially trained officers also will use effective methods of communicating with the Alzheimer's patient in order to win his or her trust and bring the situation to a positive resolution.

'Project Lifesaver' can mean the difference of minutes versus hours of searching for a patient who unknowingly may be in danger. Many Alzheimer's patients are unaware they are lost and do not call out for help or respond to people calling for them.

"It's going to be a tremendous relief," said Ellen. "It's priceless."




City of Rockville Police officers received training in the Fall on how to locate missing persons using Project Lifesaver equipment.

For more information, or to sign-up for the program, call

Corporal Jan Seilhamer at 240-314-8922. **RR**

TRC 11	THE ROCKVILLE CHANNEL DECEMBER PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE							✂ --- CLIP & SAVE ---	
	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
12 Midnight until meeting ends	Planning Commission ▾	Historic District Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Historic District Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾		
6 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 a.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
7 a.m.	Decked Halls	Annual Report	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov	Preserving Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Decked Halls	Decked Halls		
7:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
8 a.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
8:30 a.m.	Historic District Commission ▾	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Mayor & Council ▾		
9 a.m.	▾	M&C Inauguration ▾	The Nutcracker ▾	Rockville U - Profiles ▾	Annual Report	M&C Inauguration ▾	▾		
9:30 a.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	Decked Halls	▾	▾		
10 a.m.	▾	Decked Halls	▾	▾	The Nutcracker ▾	Decked Halls	▾		
10:30 a.m.	▾	Annual Report	Decked Halls	Annual Report	▾	Annual Report	▾		
11 a.m.	▾	Decked Halls	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov	Preserving Rockville's Past	▾	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov	Cityline		
11:30 a.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
12 noon	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
12:30 p.m.	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline	Cityline		
1 p. m. until meeting ends	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Historic District Commission ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Planning Commission ▾		
4 p.m.	Rockville U - Profiles ▾	▾	M&C Inauguration ▾	Diversity in the City - Asian ▾	▾	The Nutcracker ▾	▾		
4:30 p.m.	▾	Annual Report	▾	▾	Decked Halls	▾	The Nutcracker ▾		
5 p.m.	▾	Decked Halls	Decked Halls	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov	Preserving Rockville's Past	▾	▾		
5:30 p.m.	Annual Report	Preserving Rockville's Past	Annual Report	Decked Halls	Annual Report	Decked Halls	▾		
6 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
6:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
7 p.m.	Planning Commission ▾	Mayor & Council ▾	Rockville U - Profiles ▾	Planning Commission ▾	Annual Report	Mayor & Council ▾	Rockville U - Profiles ▾		
7:30 p.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	Decked Halls	Historic Dist. Comm.(HDC (3 & 4 Thurs.))	▾		
8 p.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	The Nutcracker ▾		▾		
8:30 p.m.	▾	▾	M&C Inauguration ▾	▾	▾		M&C Inauguration ▾		
9 p.m.	▾	▾	▾	▾	▾		▾		
9:30 p.m.	▾	▾	Cityline	▾	Cityline	▾	Cityline		
10 p.m.	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report	City Hall Report		
10:30 p.m.	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review	Mayor & Council Review		
11 p.m.	M&C Inauguration ▾	Annual Report	Decked Halls	M&C Inauguration ▾	M&C Inauguration ▾	Preserving Rockville's Past	Decked Halls		
11:30p.m.	▾	Decked Halls	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov	▾	▾	Decked Halls	Destination: Rockvillemd.gov		



Mayor
LARRY GIAMMO

Councilmembers
ROBERT E. DORSEY
SUSAN R. HOFFMANN
PHYLLIS MARCUCCIO
ANNE M. ROBBINS

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